

# **\*\*ATTENTION\*\***

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Washington is losing wildlife habitat at an alarming rate according to figures compiled by game department planner George Volker.

Department of Ecology statistics show that from the time the Shoreline Management Act took effect in 1971 until September of 1977, permits were approved for development of 869 miles of formerly natural marine, stream and lake shorelines. These figures do not include the miles of shoreline that were developed for single family homes, which are exempted from the act, Volker said.

## The real threat:

Volker also cites U.S. Forest Service figures showing that urban and industrial expansion alone removed 260,000 acres from the amount of commercial forest land base between 1945 and 1970. The total amount of commercial forest land lost in these years is somewhere around 630,000 acres, Volker said.

## vanishing habitat

And according to the U.S. Bureau of Census, the total amount of farm land -- which provides habitat for many species -- increased from 15,181,000 acres in 1940 to 19,052,000 in 1964; but since then the acreage has shrunk by 2,391,000 -- an annual loss of 291,000 acres that has been diverted to other uses. Volker pointed out that still further habitat loss has taken place as a result of modern, more intensive farming techniques on existing farm lands.



## WHAT CAN I DO ?

### IN MY CITY, COUNTY, STATE, NATION

#### ON MY CITY LOT

*and everywhere*

Maintain a natural Environment

Keep paving to a minimum (gravel is a natural filter).

Use native plants in landscaping.

Leave native vegetation (weed patches).

Keep herbicide/pesticide use to minimum.

Intersperse trees, shrubs, grass lands.

Install nest boxes.

Feed birds in winter and early spring.  
provide water year round.

Recycle and conserve whenever possible -  
recycling saves wildlife habitat.

Insist that "developers" minimize  
habitat destruction.

Join others who feel the same.

Look for public notices and attend  
public meetings.

Find out the conservation intent of  
elected officials before you vote.

Work for mini parks and "open" spaces.

Contribute support to legitimate wild-  
life causes.

Donate to wildlife agencies.

Buy hunting and fishing licenses (even  
if you don't hunt or fish)

Buy personnalized non-hunted wildlife  
car license plates.

Donate critical wildlife lands for  
natural areas.

#### ON MY FARM

*and other appropriate places*

All of above plus

Leave marshlands undrained.

Leave vegetation along stream bank.

Don't use herbicides/pesticides near  
waterways.

Leave snags for nest trees.

Leave native vegetation where ever you  
can to provide wildlife shelter.

### IN MY OUTDOOR RECREATION

Practice minimum impact recreation.

Learn more about wildlife and wildlife  
habitat needs.

HABITAT IS THE KEY TO WILDLIFE SURVIVAL  
*Habitat includes food, water, shelter and space.*